

## **DISTRIBUTED TRANSMISSION SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES**

### **(MB Docket No. 05-312)**

- Technology allows broadcasters to employ multiple, synchronized transmitters spread throughout a station's service area on the same channel.
- Relies on adaptive equalizer in DTV receivers to minimize self-inflicted interference.
- Technology is particularly well-suited to fill-in so-called replication gaps between a station's analog and post-transition digital service areas.
- Replication gap, fill-in service from a DTS transmitter ordinarily requires significantly lower power levels and lower antenna heights than a station's main transmitter.
- These factors typically make it easier and quicker to deploy DTS transmitters -- many more tower sites available, less stress added to towers by lower powered antennas, smaller transmission lines, low power transmitters readily available.
- Commission action now on pending NPRM can help address the replication gap coverage problem faster than other solutions currently available.
- DTS Works in Cities: The MTVA recently completed extensive DTS testing in and around Brooklyn. Test results demonstrated that DTS increased signal strength inside and outside homes with minimal self-inflicted interference.
- DTS Works in Rural Areas: The Pennsylvania State University public television station signed on a DTS network in 2003 that has been serving the public since. Recent field testing demonstrated service being provided to State College where none was available without DTS and with minimal self-inflicted interference.
- Procedural History: Use of DTS approved in principle by FCC in Second DTV Periodic Report & Order (2004) with adoption of Interim Policy to allow limited use of DTS pending rulemaking.
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (MB Docket No. 03-15) to authorize full-power stations to use DTS as part of their protected primary service area released November 4, 2005.
- Interim DTS policy also clarified. Interim policy does not encourage DTS use. Many broadcasters unwilling to commit resources to build-out DTS network without FCC rules.
- Record is Complete – Reply comments filed April 18, 2006. Near unanimous consensus in Docket that DTS is an important tool for stations to have available when building-out their DTV service areas. Supporting comments from a wide variety of broadcast organizations and broadcasters, including NAB, MSTV, APTS, Tribune, Lin Television, Entravision and Pennsylvania State University.